

HOUSE No. 3123

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to telephone directories

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	34th Middlesex
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Sarah K. Peake	4th Barnstable
David B. Sullivan	6th Bristol
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	26th Middlesex
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk
Joyce A. Spiliotis	12th Essex
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1: The General Laws are hereby amended by adding after Chapter 159C the following new chapter;

CHAPTER 159D. Telephone Directory Distribution

Section 1. As used in this chapter, the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:—

“Telephone Directory”, a printed collection of residential or commercial telephone numbers or addresses or a combination thereof.

“Telephone Directory Company”, a business involved in the production or distribution of telephone directories.

Section 2. (a) Telephone directory companies shall implement and maintain a database of names and addresses of individuals who wish to opt out of receiving telephone directories. The companies shall maintain a toll-free phone number that consumers may call who wish to add themselves to the opt-out database.

(b) Telephone directory companies shall publish in clear print on either the inside or outside of the front or rear cover of the telephone directory the procedure by which customers may opt out of telephone directory delivery.

(c) Telephone directory companies shall be prohibited from delivering or mailing telephone directories to a residential address where an individual added themselves to the opt-out database for a period of five years from the date the individual signed up for the opt-out database. Upon direct request from a resident

20 at the address, the telephone directory company may remove the address from the opt-out database before
21 completion of the five year period.

22 (d) The number of telephone directories delivered to a multi-family residence by a telephone directory
23 company shall not exceed the total number of units in the building minus the number of units in the
24 building listed in the opt-out database.

25 (e) Violation of this section shall constitute a violation of Chapter 93A and may be enforced under the
26 procedures available under said chapter.